

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
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Harald GUSTAFSSON et al.) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
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Application No.: Unassigned) Examiner: Unassigned
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Filed: March 30, 2001)
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For: A METHOD OF TRANSMITTING)
VOICE INFORMATION AND AN)
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS)
DEVICE FOR TRANSMISSION OF)
VOICE INFORMATION)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-captioned patent application, it is requested
that the following amendments be entered.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1-15 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of transmitting voice information from an electronics
communications device, said method comprising the stages of
- receiving said voice information from the environment of the device
together with a first background sound,
 - generating a sound signal having a first signal part representing the voice
information and a second signal part representing the first background
sound,

- wherein the method further comprises the step of adding to said sound signal and additional signal representing a second background sound.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of adding the additional signal comprises replaying a pre-recorded background stored in the device.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of adding the additional signal representing the second background sound is performed in said communications channel.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the signal part representing the first background sound is reduced to a level where the background sound is substantially removed.

6. (Amended) An electronic communications device for transmission of voice information, comprising

- transducer means for receiving the voice information from the environment of the device together with a first background sound, and for generating a sound signal comprising a first signal part representing the voice information and a second part representing the first background sound,
- means for reducing the signal part representing the first background sound, and
- means for transmitting the sound signal through a communications channel to which the device is connected,

wherein it further comprises means for adding to said sound signal an additional signal representing a second background sound.

7. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 6, wherein the means for adding an additional signal comprises means for playback of audio signals.

8. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 7, wherein the device further comprises means for storing a pre-recorded background sound in the device.

9. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 8, wherein the device further comprises means for recording a background sound for storage in the device.

10. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 7, wherein the device further comprises means for downloading audio files through said communications channel.

11. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 10, wherein the device is adapted to download and play back said audio files online.

12. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 7, wherein the device is adapted to play back a smooth background sound and to add more distinct sounds at random instances.

13. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 6, wherein the device further comprises means for selecting by a user, at the beginning of a call, whether said means for reducing the signal part representing the first background sound and said means for adding an additional signal are to be enabled during the call.

14. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 6, wherein the device is adapted to select automatically whether said means for reducing the

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signal part representing the first background sound and said means for adding an additional signal are to be enabled in dependence on parameters stored in the device.

15. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 6, wherein the device is a mobile telephone

REMARKS

By way of the foregoing amendments to the claims, claims 1-15 have been amended to delete multiple dependencies and reference numerals. These changes have been made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as amended on November 7, 2000. Marked-up versions of claims 1-15 indicating the changes accompany this Preliminary Amendment.

Early and favorable consideration with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 30, 2001

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated March 30, 2001

Marked-up Claims 1-15

1. (Amended) A method of transmitting voice information from an electronics communications device [(1)], said method comprising the steps of:

- receiving said voice information from the environment of the device together with a first background sound,
- generating a sound signal having a first signal part representing the voice information and a second signal part representing the first background sound,
- reducing the signal part representing the first background sound, [and]
- transmitting said sound signal through a communications channel to which the device is connected, and

[characterized in that the method further comprises the step of] adding to said sound signal an additional signal representing a second background sound.

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the step of adding an additional signal representing the second background sound is performed in said electronics communications device [(1)].

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [or 2, characterized in that] wherein the step of adding the additional signal comprises replaying a pre-recorded background stored in the device [(1)].

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Marked-up Claims 1-15

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the step of adding the additional signal representing the second background sound is performed in said communications channel.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the signal part representing the first background sound is reduced to a level where the background sound is substantially removed.

6. (Amended) An electronic communications device [(1)] for transmission of voice information[,] comprising:

- transducer [(2)] means for receiving the voice information from the environment of the device together with a first background sound, and for generating a sound signal comprising a first signal part representing the voice information and a second part representing the first background sound,
- means [(5)] for reducing the signal part representing the first background sound, [and]
- means [(7, 8)] for transmitting the sound signal through a communications channel to which the device is connected, and

[characterized in that it further comprises] means [(9, 10)] for adding to said sound signal an additional signal representing a second background sound.

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Marked-up Claims 1-15

7. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 6,
[characterized in that] wherein the means [(9, 10)] for adding an additional signal comprises
means for playback of audio signals.

8. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 7,
[characterized in that] wherein the device further comprises means [(13)] for storing a pre-
recorded background sound in the device.

9. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 8,
[characterized in that] wherein the device further comprises means [(14)] for recording a
background sound for storage in the device.

10. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 7,
[characterized in that] wherein the device further comprises means [(17)] for downloading
audio files through said communications channel.

11. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to claim 10, wherein
the device [is adapted to download and play back] downloads and plays back said audio files
online.

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Marked-up Claims 1-15

12. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to [any of claims 7-11] claim 7, [characterized in that] wherein the device [is adapted to play] plays back a smooth background sound and [to add] adds more distinct sounds at random instances.

13. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to [any one of claims 6-12] claim 6, [characterized in that] wherein the device further comprises means for selecting by a user, at the beginning of a call, whether said means for reducing the signal part representing the first background sound and said means for adding an additional signal are to be enabled during the call.

14. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to [any one of claims 6-12] claim 6, [characterized in that] wherein the device [is adapted to select] automatically selects whether said means for reducing the signal part representing the first background sound and said means for adding an additional signal are to be enabled in dependence on parameters stored in the device.

15. (Amended) An electronic communications device according to [any one of claims 6-14] claim 6, [characterized in that] wherein the device is a mobile telephone.